

Accessing Novel Process Windows in a High-Temperature/Pressure Capillary Flow Reactor



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Advantages of Flow Chemistry - Microreactors

- Very efficient mixing of the reactants (micromixing)
- Rapid heat transfer and temperature control of the reaction system
- High temperature/high pressure capability
- Automated reaction optimization – on the fly changes
- Multi step reactions in a continuous sequence
- Immobilized catalysts/reagents
- Easy scale-up of a proven reaction by:
 - increase of time
 - reactor volume change
 - parallel processing (numbering up)
- Automated purification possible by:
 - solid phase scavenging
 - chromatographic separation
 - liquid/liquid extraction
- Integrated screening (lab-on-a-chip)

Microreactor Chip for Flow Processing



Advantages of High Temperature Flow Chemistry

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*Tube/Capillary Reactor
For Flow Processing
("Mesofluidic")*



Process Intensification Technologies (Novel Process Windows)

- **Routes at elevated temperature and/or pressure**
- Routes mixing reagents "all at once"
- Routes at increased concentration or solvent free
- Direct routes from hazardous elements
- Routes using unstable intermediates
- Routes in the explosive or thermal runaway regime
- Process simplification (routes avoiding catalysts or complex separations)

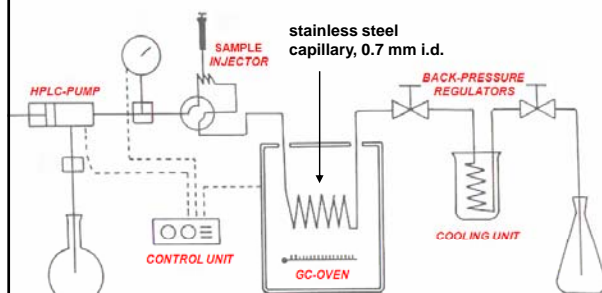
Jähnisch, K.; Hessel, V. et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, 43, 406-446
Hessel, V.; Löb, P.; Löwe, H. *Curr. Org. Chem.* **2005**, 9, 765-787
Hessel, V.; Kralisch, D.; Krtischil, U. *Energy Environ. Sci.* **2008**, 1, 467-478

Van Gerven, T.; Stankiewicz, A. *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* **2009**, 48, 2465

**Can Microwave (Batch) Chemistry be Translated to Flow Conditions?
Short Reaction Times = Short Residence Times**

Background: High Temperature/Pressure Flow Chemistry in Steel Capillary Reactors

Reactor Combining HPLC and GC Parts



Chemistries

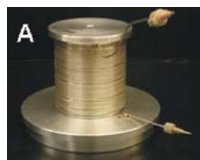
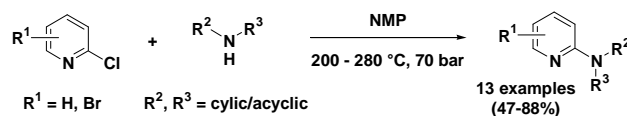
- Redox chemistry
- Radical reactions
- Ester pyrolysis
- Degradation of cellulose and chitin
- Supercritical conditions

Selected References (J. O. Metzger, 1978-1991)

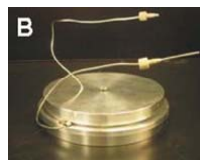
Köll, K.; Metzger, J. *Angew. Chem.* **1978**, *90*, 802; Metzger, J.; Köll, K. *Angew. Chem.* **1979**, *91*, 74; Malwitz, D.; Metzger, J.O. *Angew. Chem.* **1986**, *98*, 747; Metzger, J. *Angew. Chem.* **1983**, *95*, 914; Klenke, K.; Metzger, J. O.; Lübben, S. *Angew. Chem.* **1988**, *100*, 1195; Giese, B.; Farshchi, H.; Hartmanns, J.; Metzger, J. O. *Angew. Chem.* **1991**, *103*, 619.

Background: High Temperature Flow Chemistry in Steel Capillary Reactors

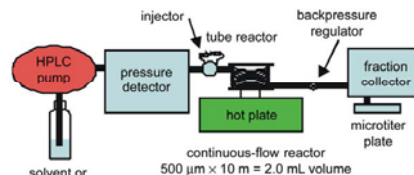
S_NAr Substitutions with Secondary Amines



Aluminium Spool
44 turns, 10 m
0.5 mm i.d. stainless steel



Flat Aluminium Reactor
10 m
0.5 mm i.d. stainless steel



continuous-flow reactor
500 μm \times 10 m = 2.0 mL volume

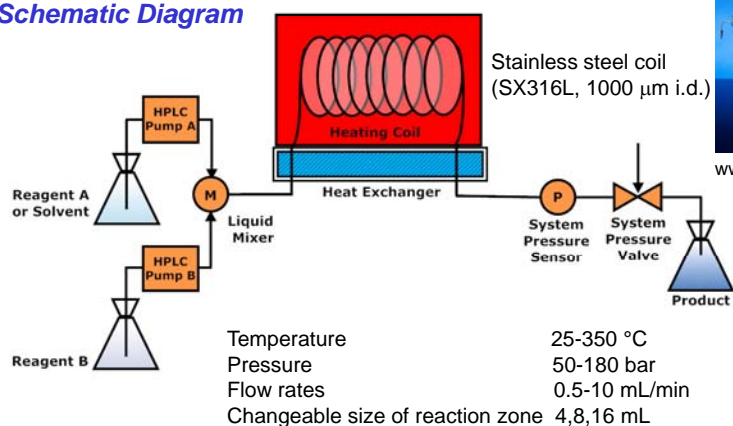
Hamper, B.; Tesfu, E. (Pfizer, USA) *Synlett* **2007**, 2257

Commercially Available “Mesofluidic“ Reactors for (High Temperature/Pressure) Organic Synthesis



High-Temperature/Pressure Flow Reactor (X-Cube Flash)

Schematic Diagram



From Microwave Batch to Flow

Single-Mode Microwave



Optimization



< 20 mL

Multimode Microwave



Batch Scale-Up

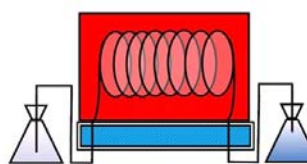


~ 1 L

X-Cube Flash



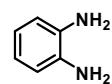
Continuous Flow Processing



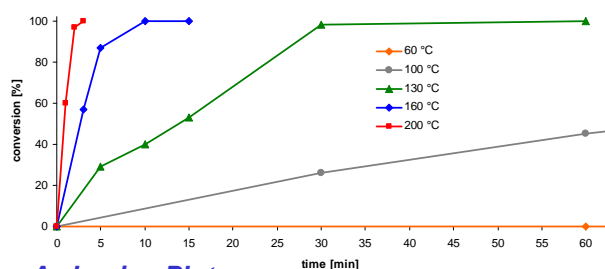
4, 8, 16 mL coils

Case Study 1: 2-Methylbenzimidazole Formation

Kinetic Study



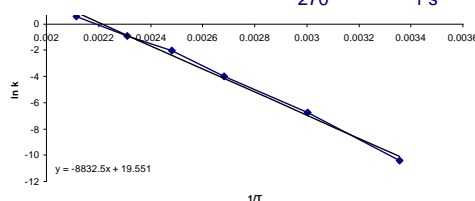
neat (1 M)
rt-200 °C



T [°C]	>99 % conv. after
25	9 weeks
60	5 days
100	5 h
130	30 min
160	10 min
200	3 min
270	"1 s"

Arrhenius Plot

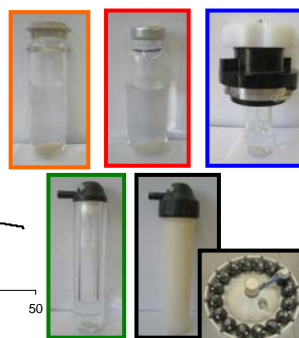
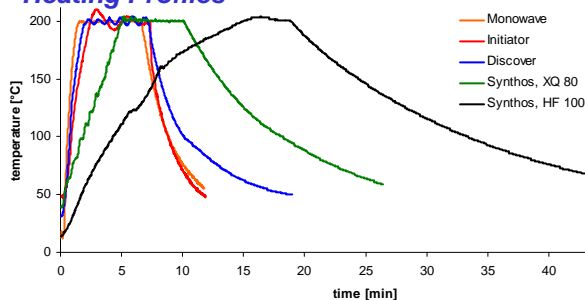
- Activation energy:
 $E_a = 73.43 \text{ kJ/mol}$
- Pre-Exponential factor:
 $A = 3.1 \times 10^8$



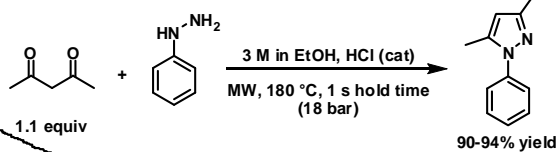
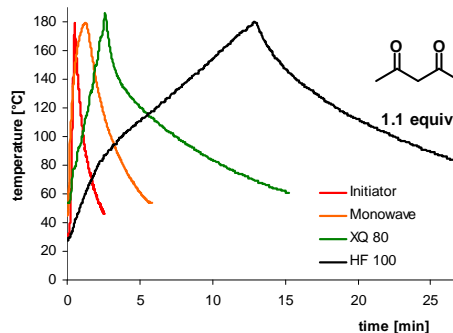
Batch Microwave Scale-Up: 2-Methylbenzimidazole (200 °C, 5 min, 5 M)

MW Instrument	Reaction volume (mL)	Yield in g (%)	Ramp/hold/cooling time (min)	Overall processing time (min)
Monowave 300	20	9.44 (95)	1/5/6	12
Initiator EXP 2.5	20	9.35 (94)	2/5/5	12
Discover LabMate	20	9.13 (92)	2/5/6	13
Synthos 3000 (XQ 80)	4 × 10 = 40	18.68 (94)	5/5/17	27
Synthos 3000 (HF 100)	16 × 60 = 960	465.7 (98)	15/5/30	50

Heating Profiles

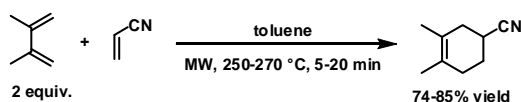


Case Study 2: Pyrazole Synthesis



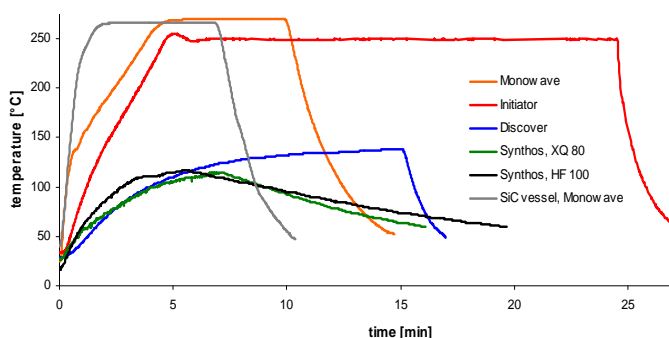
MW Instrument	Reaction volume (mL)	Yield in g (%)	Ramp/cooling time (min)	Overall processing time (min)
Monowave 300	20	9.40 (91)	1.5/4.5	6
Initiator EXP 2.5	20	9.29 (90)	<1/3.2	4
Synthos 3000 (XQ 80)	4 × 10 = 40	19.34 (94)	2.5/12.5	15
Synthos 3000 (HF 100)	16 × 60 = 960	468 (95)	13/30	43

Case Study 3: Diels-Alder Cycloaddition



- weakly MW absorbing mixture
- high temperatures can not be reached in multimode reactors
- high temperatures and rapid heating with SiC vials

Heating Profiles



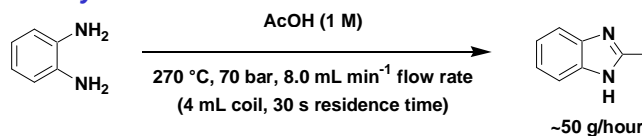
SiC Vials



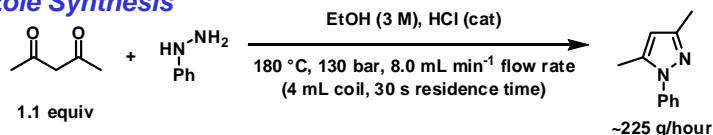
cf. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*
2009, 48, 8321

Converting Batch Microwave to Continuous Flow Processing (X-Cube Flash)

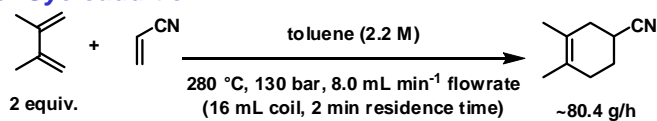
Benzimidazole Synthesis



Pyrazole Synthesis



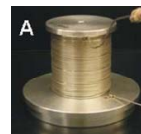
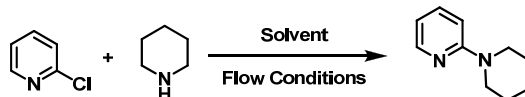
Diels-Alder Cycloaddition



Damm, M.; Glasnov, T, N.; Kappe, C. O. *Org. Process Res. Develop.* 2010, 14, in press

Chemistry Examples: High-T/p Flow Chemistry (1)

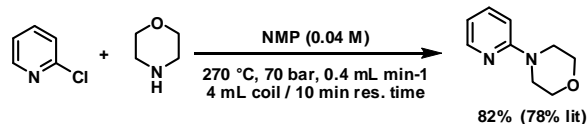
Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution – Steel Capillary Reactor



Piperidine, equiv.	Flow Rate, mL/min	Solvent	Temp., °C	Yield, %
1	0.5	DMF	240	47
2	0.5	DMF	240	52
2	0.1	DMF	240	63
2.2	0.1	DMA	260	76
2.2	0.1	NMP	260	100

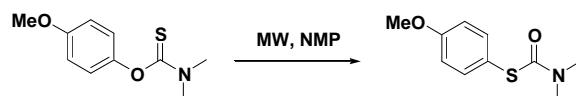
cf. Hamper, B. C.; Tesfu, E. *Synlett* **2007**, 2257

Nucleophilic Aromatic Substitution – X-Cube FLASH



Chemistry Examples: High-T/p Flow Chemistry (2)

Newman-Kwart Rearrangement: Microwave Conditions



280 °C, 20min: 27% (HPLC)
330-340 °C, 40 min: 99% (HPLC)

Moseley, J. D. et al. *Tetrahedron* **2006**, 62, 4685
Moseley, J. D.; Lenden, P. *Tetrahedron* **2007**, 63, 4120



Continuous Flow Results (4 mL Coil)

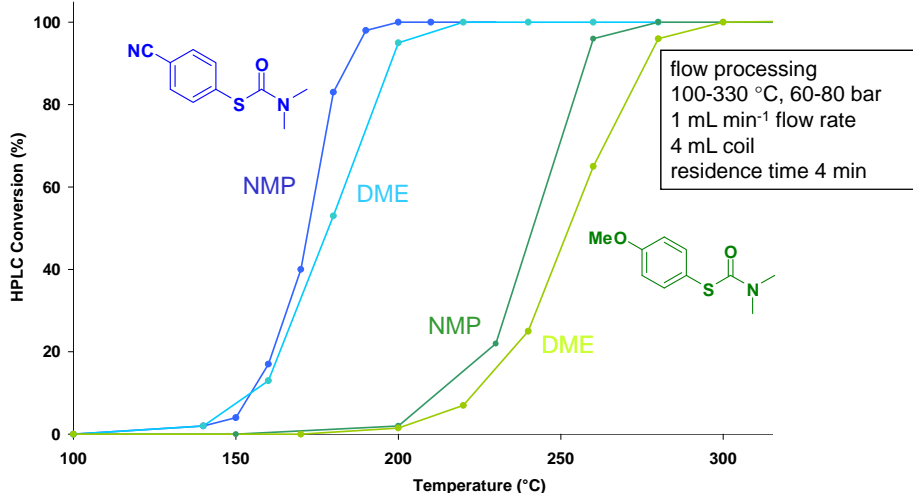
NMP: 280 °C, 60 bar, 1 mL min⁻¹ >99% (HPLC)
Isolation difficult (aqueous)

scDME: 300 °C, 80 bar, 1 mL min⁻¹ >99% (HPLC)
(bp. 85 °C, critical point: 263 °C/38 bar)
Isolation by simple evaporation >99% yield

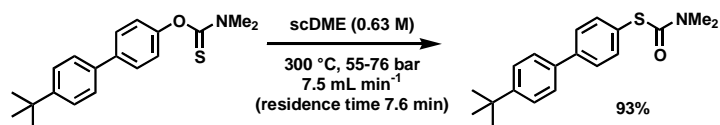


Continuous Flow Newman-Kwart Rearrangement

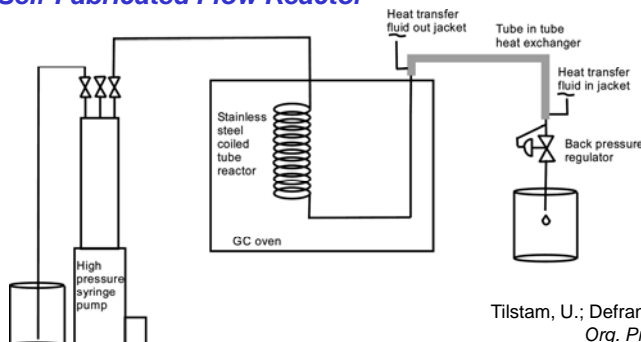
Kinetic Analysis (HPLC)



Continuous Flow Newman-Kwart Rearrangement (Eli Lilly, 2009)



Self-Fabricated Flow Reactor

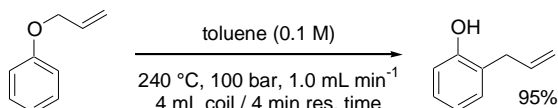


Maximum Operating Conditions:
T : ~320 °C
p : ~137 bar

Tilstam, U.; Defrance, T.; Giard, T.; Johnson, M. D.
Org. Process. Res. Dev. **2009**, *13*, 321

Chemistry Examples: High-T/p Flow Chemistry (3)

Claisen Rearrangement



cf. MW conditions (toluene, 250 °C, SiC): Kreamsner, J. M.; Kappe, C. O. *J. Org. Chem.* **2006**, *71*, 4651
Razzaq, T.; Kreamsner, J. M.; Kappe, C. O. *J. Org. Chem.* **2008**, *73*, 6321

Optimization in Flow

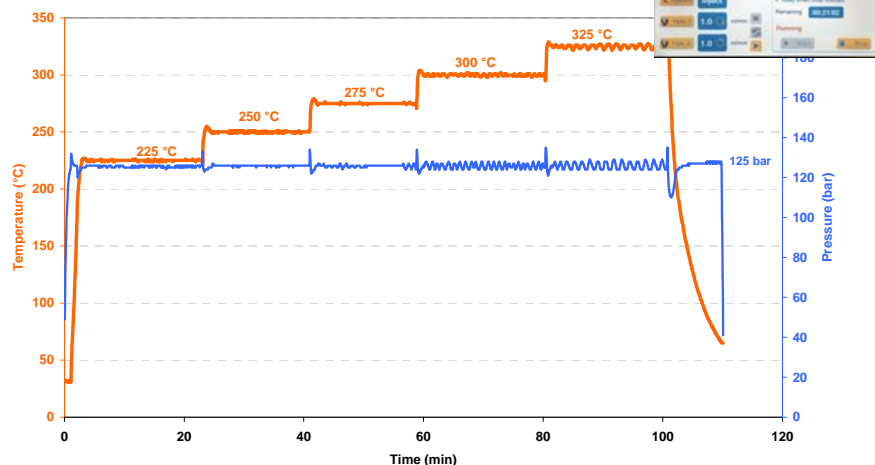
Solvents:	NMP, DMF, Toluene, scEtOH, scDME
Temperature Range:	140 – 325 °C
Flow Rates:	0.8 – 2 mL/min
Pressure:	60 – 125 bar

Best Conditions (Full Conversion, Cleanest Reaction Profile):

toluene (0.1 M), 240 °C, 100 bar, 1.0 mL min⁻¹

Claisen Rearrangement – Stepwise “On-the-Fly” Increase of Temperature

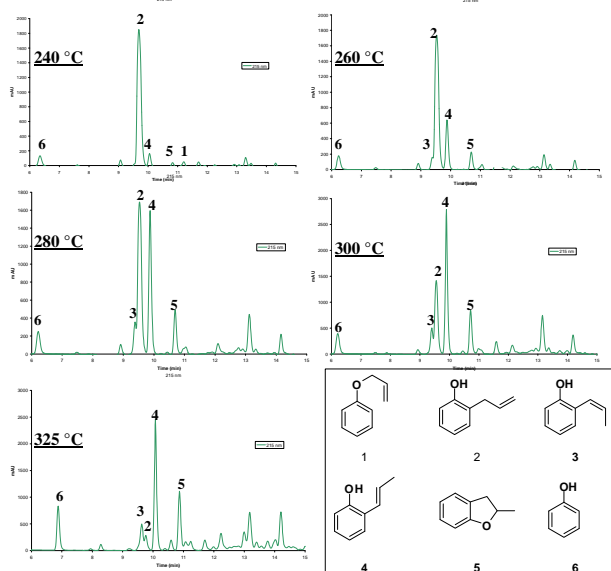
(X-Cube Flash, Toluene, 125 bar, 1 mL/min)



High-T/p Claisen Rearrangements in Toluene at Different T

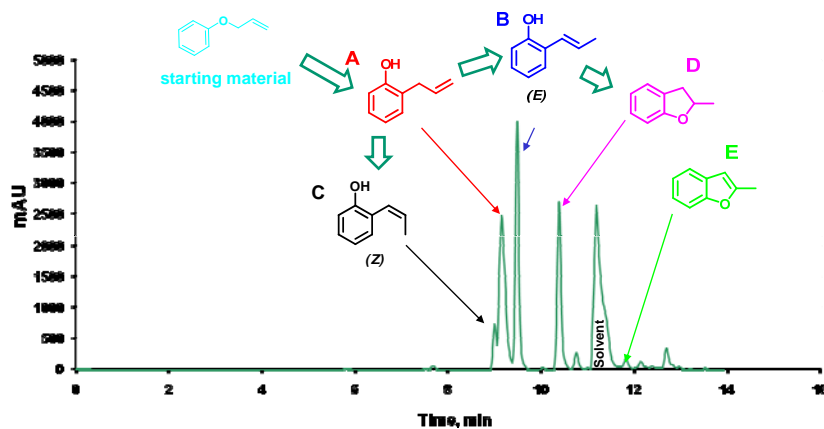
HPLC Monitoring
(GC-MS)

Conditions:
240-325 °C
100-125 bar
1ml/min flow
4 mL coil
4 min res. time



Claisen Rearrangement – High Temperature Reaction Pathways (Toluene, 315 °C)

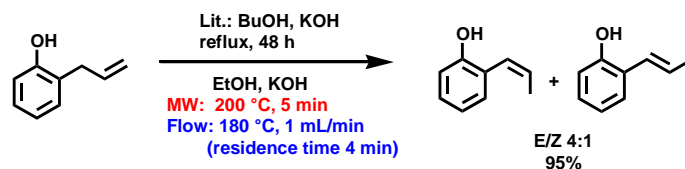
HPLC Monitoring (GC-MS)



Razzaq, T.; Glasnov, T. N.; Kappe, C. O. *Chem. Eng. Technol.* **2009**, *32*, 1702

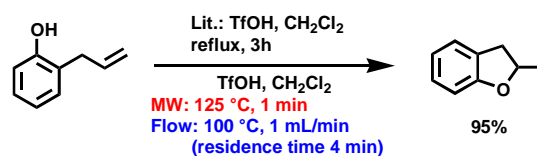
Chemistry Examples: High-T/p Flow Chemistry (4)

Base-Catalyzed Rearrangement of 2-Allylphenol



cf. Davies, N. R.; DiMichiel, A. D. *Aust. J. Chem.* **1973**, 26, 1529

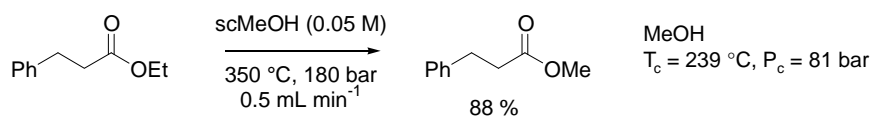
Acid-Catalyzed Cyclization of 2-Allylphenol



cf. L. Coulombel, E. Dunach, *Green Chem.* **2004**, 6, 499

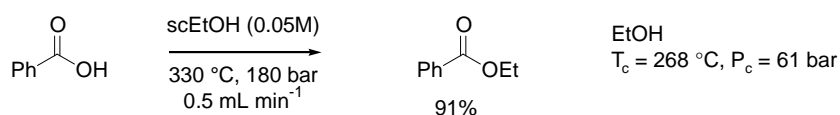
Chemistry Examples: High-T/p Flow Chemistry (5) Reactions in Supercritical Alcohols

Transesterification



cf. Socher, G. et al. *Fresenius J. Anal. Chem.* **2001**, 371, 369

Esterification



Razzaq, T.; Glasnov, T. N.; Kappe, C. O. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, 1321

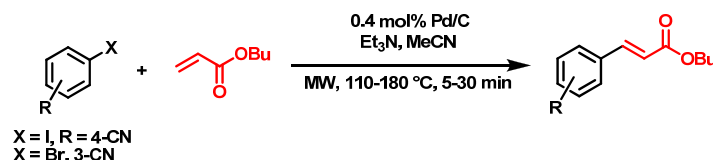
Chemistry Examples: Medium T/p Flow Chemistry Heck C-C Coupling

Literature Background



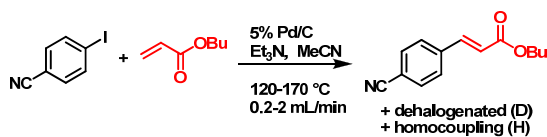
Stadler, A. et al. *Org. Process Res. Dev.* **2003**, 7, 707
Degussa Pd/C: Köhler, K. et al. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2002**, 8, 622

Example for Batch and Flow Chemistry

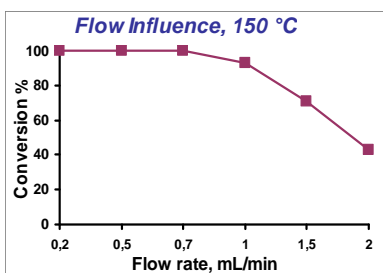
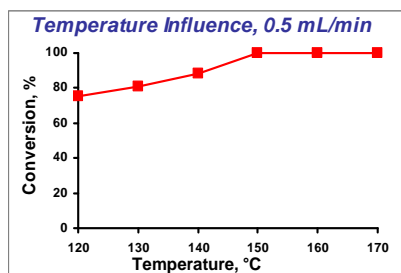


cf. Nikbin, N.; Ladlow, M.; Ley, S. *Org. Process Res. Dev.* **2007**, 11, 458 (monolithic nanoparticles)
cf. K. Mennecke, W. Solodenko, A. Kirschning, *Synthesis* **2008**, 1589 (immobilized palladacycles)

Heck Chemistry under Flow Conditions (Immobilized Catalyst: Pd/C)

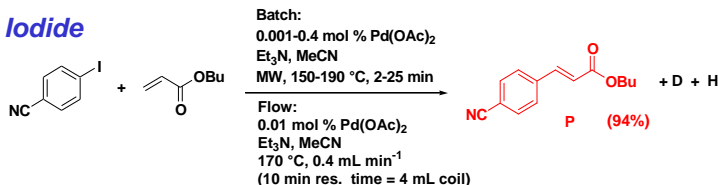


X-Cube
(200 °C, 150 bar)



Heck Chemistry (MW / Flow) – Homogeneous Catalysis with Pd(OAc)₂

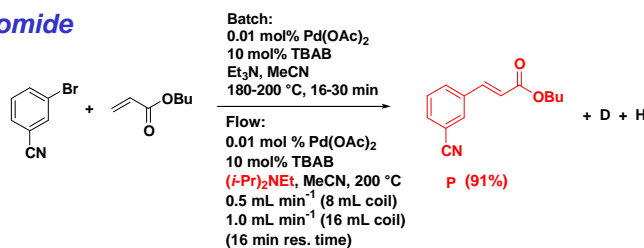
Aryl Iodide



Entry	Conditions	Pd(OAc) ₂ [mol%]	Temp [°C] / Time [min]	Conversion [%, GC-FID]	Selectivity P/D/H [%, GC-FID]
1	Batch/MW	0.4	150 / 2	>99	89 / 5 / 6
2	Batch/MW	0.1	150 / 2	>99	93 / 2 / 5
3	Batch/MW	0.05	150 / 5	>99	98 / 1 / 1
4	Batch/MW	0.01	150 / 25	>99	99 / <1 / 0
5	Batch/MW	0.01	170 / 10	>99	99 / <1 / 0
6	Batch/MW	0.001/ 10 mol% TBAB	190 / 15	>99	99 / <1 / 0
7	Batch/OB	0.01	150 / 25	>99	99 / <1 / 0

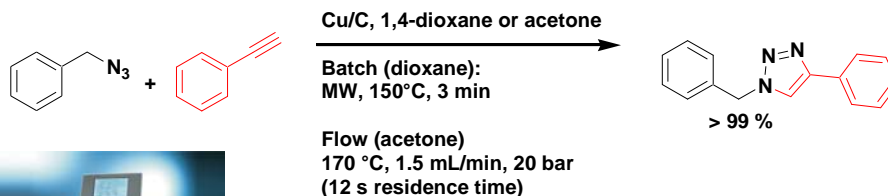
Heck Chemistry (MW / Flow) – Homogeneous Catalysis with Pd(OAc)₂

Aryl Bromide



Entry	Conditions	Pd(OAc) ₂ [mol%]	Temp [°C] / Time [min]	Conversion [%, GC-FID]	Selectivity P/D/H [%, GC-FID]
1	Batch/MW	0.01	180 / 30	90	99 / <1 / 0
2	Batch/MW	0.01	200 / 16	>99	99 / <1 / 0
3	Flow (1 mL min ⁻¹)	0.01	200 / 16	>99	99 / <1 / 0

Continuous Flow Cu-Catalyzed Azide-Alkyne Cycloaddition (CuAAC, “Click Chemistry”)



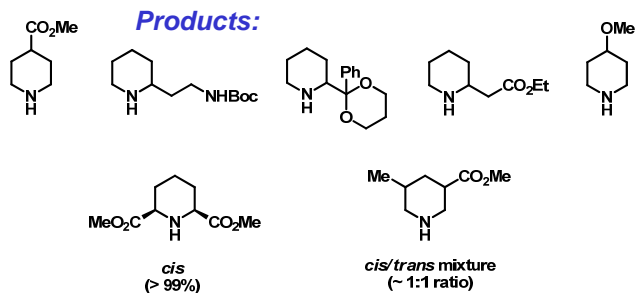
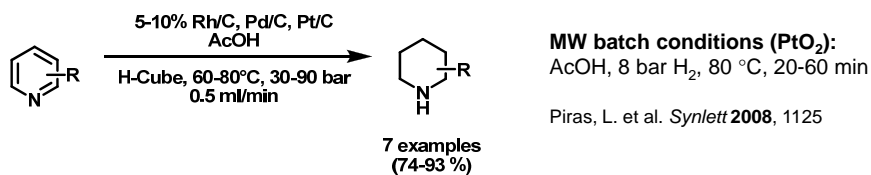
X-Cube
(200 °C, 150 bar)

cf. Cu/C: Lipshutz, B. H. et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, 45, 8235

cf. flow click chemistry: Smith, C. D. et al. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2007**, 5, 1559
Bogdan, A. R.; Sach, N. W. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2009**, 351, 849

Fuchs, M.; Goessler, W.; Pilger, C.; Kappe, C. O., *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2010**, in press

Continuous Flow Hydrogenations of Substituted Pyridines (H-Cube)



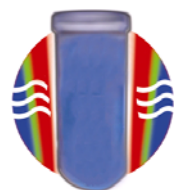
H-Cube
(100 °C, 100 bar)



Irfan, M.; Petricci, E.; Glasnov, T. N.; Taddei, M.; Kappe, C. O. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, 1326

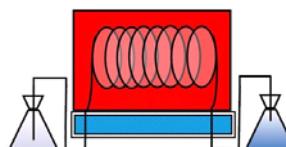
Summary: Novel Process Windows - Transforming Microwave to Flow Chemistry

Microwave Chemistry
(Reaction Time)



≤ 300 °C, ≤ 20 bar

Flow Chemistry
(Residence Time)



≤ 350 °C, ≤ 200 bar

Translating microwave to flow chemistry: In a high-temperature/pressure microtubular flow device, many of the benefits inherent to microwave chemistry such as rapid heating/cooling and sealed vessel processing can be mimicked, including the generation of solvents in their supercritical state. In addition the scalability problem of microwave synthesis can be eliminated

Razzaq, T.; Glasnov, T, N.; Kappe, C. O. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2009**, 1321

Christian Doppler Laboratory for Microwave Chemistry

A Public-Private-Partnership Initiative (2006-2013)



Christian Doppler
Forschungsgesellschaft

Dr. Toma N. Glasnov
Tahseen Razzaq
Markus Damm
Irfan Muhammed

Christian Doppler Research Society (CDG)
Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)
European Union COST, Land Steiermark
BM:BWK, Österreichische Nationalbank (ÖNB)



Lonza



Biotage
CEM
Milestone

Novartis, Abbott
Boehringer Ingelheim
Organon, BASF